

As a member of the U.S. Army, Jim dedicated his career to defending the values this nation holds dear. By risking his life to ensure the safety of others, John made the ultimate sacrifice. His valiant actions and steadfast service remind us of the gratitude we feel toward him and all the other servicemen and women who have lost their lives serving as guardians of this great country. John was indeed a man of courage and integrity.

Mr. Speaker, may the memory of Sgt. 1st Class James "Jim" Ochsner live on in our hearts, and may God's strength and peace be with his family.

CONGRATULATING MR. VERNON
CONRAD

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 17, 2005

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mr. Vernon Conrad of Reedley, California as the honored recipient of the Greater Fresno Area Chamber of Commerce "Agriculturist of the Year" award.

The Greater Fresno Area Chamber of Commerce awards an individual who exemplifies leadership and integrity in the Central Valley's agricultural business community every year at their awards luncheon. This year the organization could not have chosen an individual who is more deserving of this prestigious honor.

Mr. Conrad is a fourth generation Californian and his family has deep roots in east Valley agriculture; dating back to the late 1800s. He is a lifelong resident of Fresno County as a Reedley community member where he grows grapes and tree fruits. It is from this background that Vernon emerged as a respected agriculturist in the community. His leadership with the Fresno County Farm Bureau and Fresno County Board of Supervisors sets the bar high for those who follow in his foot steps.

Mr. Conrad served two terms as Fresno County Farm Bureau President and during his time with the Farm Bureau Mr. Conrad worked tirelessly to promote the Valley's agriculture agenda on a national level. He traveled to Washington, DC twice to testify before Congress on some of the Farm Bureau's major issues, such as concerns over water and acreage.

His concerted efforts on policy and advocacy eventually led Mr. Conrad down another path of activism as a Fresno County Supervisor. As a three term board member, Vernon, tackled various county dilemmas with renewed energy each time a new problem emerged. He focused on improving the efficiency of Fresno County operations, dealt with funding challenges and land use and zoning issues.

As if overcoming obstacles faced by the county and the farming community wasn't enough, Vernon also found time to serve on various committees and associations to work actively with agriculture groups. He was a board member of the Alta Irrigation District, Kings River Conservation District, Regional Water Quality Control Board and the Kings River Water Association. Through his work with these organizations, Mr. Conrad earned a seat representing California on the American Farm Bureau Federation's Natural Resources

and Water Committee, on which he served as chair for five years.

Vernon Conrad's extensive efforts as an advocate of agriculture and the community have earned him the respect and admiration of his colleagues. It is with great pleasure that I stand today and congratulate Mr. Conrad for all of his achievements, and thank him for his commitment to our Valley.

A TRIBUTE TO PASTOR KENNY
FOREMAN

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 17, 2005

Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the achievements and life of Pastor Kenny Foreman. I've had the privilege of knowing Pastor Foreman for many years, and can personally attest to his lasting legacy of achievement through selfless ministry. His is the epitome of a life dedicated to serving others.

Pastor Foreman has been in ministry for over 50 years and has served as pastor of the Cathedral of Faith in San Jose, California for 35 years. Originally from Crowley, Louisiana, he has built the Church from just a few members to 10,000, offering over 70 vital ministries to meet the needs of the community.

Born the youngest of three children to Hansel and Mabel Foreman in Crowley, Louisiana, he was on the road ministering full-time as an evangelist by age 17. Pastor Foreman married Shirley Lowry in 1957, who has been his partner in commitment to ministry. Later, they would be joined by their two sons, Ken and Kurt, who are also part of the Cathedral of Faith team.

In 1965 he came to San Jose as the Pastor of The Friendly Bible Church, and soon after produced a weekly half-hour television program entitled, "Kenny Foreman Presents Abundant Living," which was syndicated nationally. Today, Kenny Foreman is the only local minister and programmer who has remained on the air for 35 years. Throughout these years he has never received any income for his television ministry; all financial support received is funneled back into the operations of the ministry.

It soon became evident from the growth that the church would have to build. Thus, the Cathedral of Faith, a sanctuary that would seat nearly 3,000 people and its accompanying support structures, was conceived in Pastor Foreman's spirit. Eventually, the Grand Opening of the Cathedral of Faith was celebrated on March 15, 1981.

Pastor Foreman and Cathedral of Faith have an absolutely amazing record of community involvement. The work of the church has exploded into over 70 active Ministries including Reaching Out, a food assistance program which operates from a 16,000 foot distribution complex serving 50,000 families annually, and providing food for 200,000 people; California Youth Outreach, originally founded as Break-out Prison Outreach in 1982 in order to meet the needs of young men and women that had fallen prey to gangs and drugs, it also serves on the Mayor's gang task force; and Chaplaincy Ministry a program consisting of over 200 trained Chaplains who visit rest homes and convalescent hospitals each week.

Pastor Foreman's lifelong commitment to service has been honored by many organizations, and I am delighted to offer my heartfelt congratulations and gratitude to Pastor Kenny Foreman on his 40th Ministry Anniversary at the Cathedral of Faith in San Jose, California and to call Kenny Foreman and Shirley friends.

HONORING CAPTAIN MICHAEL
NOBLE

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 17, 2005

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to take the opportunity to honor Captain Michael Noble. Born into a military family in Dallas, Texas in 1977, Mike Noble has experienced much in his short lifetime. His father, MG William Noble (USA, retired) and mother, Imogene, are no strangers to serving their country. William was a founding member of the 101st Airborne and served the division throughout World War II.

Mike graduated from St. Mark's High School in 1997, and then went on to the University of Texas. He entered the Army ROTC program and graduated with honors in 1998. Upon receiving his commission he went into Military Intelligence School and, subsequently, the Army Language Institute. After completing jump school, Mike followed in his father's footsteps and was assigned to the 902nd MI group of the 101st Airborne, a special honor.

Mike served with the NATO and U.N. peace-keeping forces in Kosovo. On September 11, 2001, Mike was working with NATO Command in Brussels. When he received news of the terrorist attacks in New York and Washington, D.C., he was immediately flown back to the United States, going to work at the Pentagon while it was actually still on fire. He would not leave the building for 17 days.

Most recently Mike was active in Afghanistan and involved with the liberation of Iraq. He was severely wounded on April 13, 2003 and medically retired from the military. I am proud to employ this two-time Purple Heart recipient as the military and veterans affairs liaison in my Irving office. His dedication to his country is commendable; Mike Noble is a true American hero and an inspiration to us all.

IN MEMORY OF MR. PAUL C.
WHITE

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 17, 2005

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Mr. Paul C. White of Fresno, California. He is survived by his beloved wife of 38 years Sheila White, their six children: Paul II, Crystal, LaShelly, JePahl, Brandon, and Bryson, and his five grandchildren; Paul III, Asia, Kennedy, Darion, and Jaylin.

As a past Assistant Executive Director for the Fresno County Economic Opportunities Commission, Paul is remembered by all who knew him for his commendable service to the